THE AMERICAN CRYPTOGRAM ASSOCIATION

Official Magazine *"The Cryptogram"*

Dear OSPREY:

Thank you for the materials and letter of Nov. 14.

We'd like to look at the material more carefully before venturing more than
tentative opinions. However there are a few points you might be able to clear
up that occur to us at first glance.

The grille, if such it is, doesn't turn but stands or at most flips.Were thos
the only pages with marks? Since most of the marked letters are not legible
it's impossible to say, even if we had enough Russian to speculate on
anagramming, whether or not there is any meaning. Perhaps you have more in-
formation on this or clearer copy.

Concerning the letter: there seems to be no source in the documents for the
number clues given by "X". By"3 letters in Nov." he might mean N O V as 1,2,3
The rest of that sentence makes no sense at all for the P.O.Box number is
not 34567 but 6225. There is nothing to show how or why he"scrambled" 34567
to get 47365;similarly then 6225 becomes 2652 for no obvious reason. (Why
not 67453 or some other arrangement)? BADC or BEADC defines the scheme but
there is no source for it..again why not ADBC or ADEBC? One could as easily
just anagram selected words from the text which is what he next does.

This sort of "deciphering" is common to those who suspect null messages
everywhere. The true null shows itself normally without such manipulations.
As an example of the sort of paths down which this type of speculation can
lead as well as a criticism of them you might refer to William & Elizabeth
Friedman's book "The Shakespearean Ciphers Examined". With such a short text
 and no system known to be used one can read any message one would like into
such a letter. The message "X" seems to find is far too ambiguous for any
rational system of communication. A prime rule of any communication is that
there be no room for interpretation, esp. if there is possibility of a
mechanical garble as there would be in a systematic null such as suggested he

While this might be of historical interest if there were indeed messages,
there is not enough internal evidence now to warrant publication in The
Cryptogram. We'd be interested in any further work you do. However we can't
promise it would be anything to interest the Krewe in general. We know of
no one now who has expressed an interest in the subject so can suggest no
one who might work on the project with you.

All in all,it doesn't look too promising,esp. since at least some gov't
experts have already had a look at the whole array of documents, and have
found nothing worth the bother. We are aware of criticisms of the Warren
Report. At the same time one must leave open the possibility of deeper, less
public investigation which has, as yet, turned up nothing publishable.If
there were continuing work, relevant documents would probably not be public;
the possibility of outsiders, esp. amateurs, contributing anything would be
very small.

If you would like the materials returned, please let us know.
Good solving.

TO: Mr. David H. Harrison, 302 12th Street, N.W., Knoxville, Tennesse (ALAIS) on 18 October 1968

P L A I N T E X T

INFO FRM AJAX ATA FRMR FED MPLY POS INTL CNFRM ALEK N MPLY
USGV AT TME SOV. FTHR INFO INDCTS MPLY MY HV ACSS POTOCUS
DE PRTIC CLSFD MTR SUM NO LGR EXST BT CN PV ALEK CONCT
USGV N CPSTY DE AGNT. FTHR CTLS NT AVL DS TME BT FLP THT
PAPR NDCMNT ACSS TU EVDNC MY B HD.

C I P H E R T E X T

COMPLETE COLUMNAR TRANSPOSITION

NARPN	NVFIL	SPCSE	PNCGT	DLRSC
FXFOF	MATNY	SDIUX	VCPNL	STNSM
OSESR	PTHDM	PESMS	ATSTS	TTDTY
RSMNA	YEITH	TRDOB	ESYTT	ETMEH
FTDIM	LMRCY	OPFNT	LUTFN	MHCUB
ARLLE	SOFMA	CITGC	CVERV	TAADC
MFPTL	USNSV	OTMLT	KGCHA	BPTVD
IJMYC	KGVOP	COCRR	NONAD	LFPCN

MICRODOT SEALED BENEATH POSTAGE STAMP

The message is all a fake but it states that a former
federal employee took photographs of classified material
relating to the Oswald case, and that these photos may be
available. When the Government breakes it, if they got
it, they may take more of an interest in me and I would
like to see what developes.

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18 October 1968

Dear Dave:

Sorry that I haven't written you in such a long time,
but the truth is, that I have been so busy, that I havent
had time to do much of anything. Right now Im going to
school and working fulltime which doesn't leave much time
for fun, especially when you also work on the weekends.

... now wrote that you were getting a job with circle div...
town in La., after graduation. I imagine that it will feel
mighty good to be able to doo all the things that you have
wanted to do, and be on your own.

Well, Ive got to get ready to go to school now, so I'll
close and get this note in the mail. Write again when
you have the time and good luck with the books.

Best Regards,
Buckey

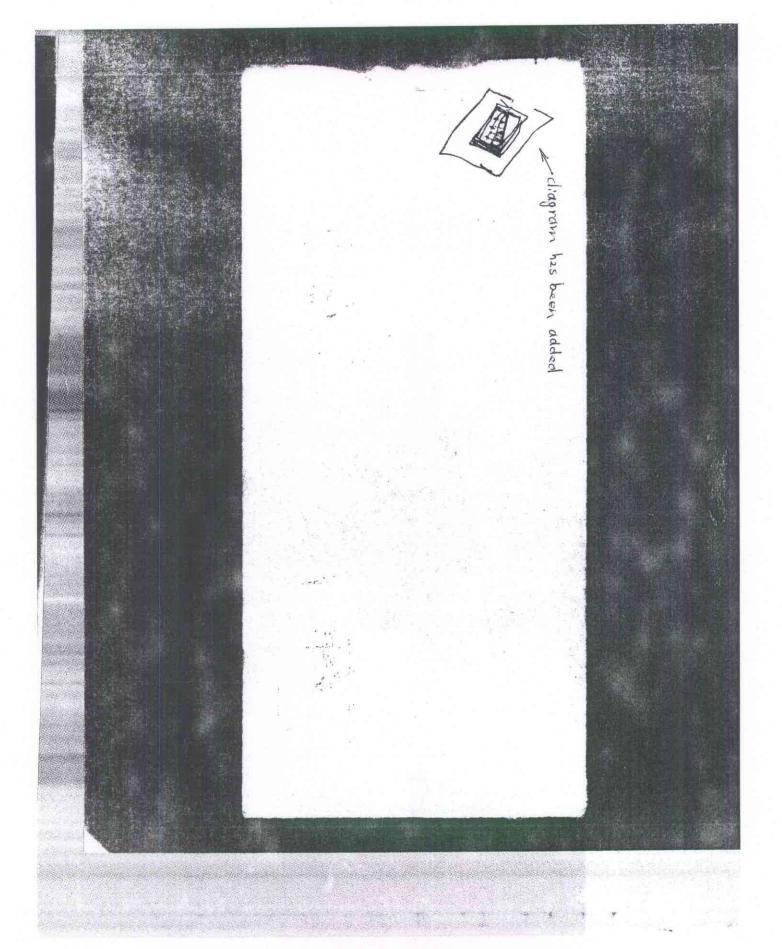*Cipher failed to appeare when exposed to heat*

This is the white sheet that was used to develope the
returned pink sheet upon which the cipher was placed.
The failure of the cipher to appear indicates that it
was developed by someone before being returned to me.

Route 4 box 32
Farmingdale, New Jersey
07727

Micro-dot has not present
beneath postage stamp

‡ took a piece of exposed 35MM film and
punched a micro-dot from it. It was then
sealed beneath the stamp but was removed
by someone and the stamp re-attached by
the strip of Scotch Tape which was used
to close the torn end

U.S. POSTAGE
6¢

APR—IGO—
OCT 18
1968

Mr. David H. Harrison
302 12th Street, N. W.
Knoxville, Tennesse

KNOXVILLE
OCT 26
1968
TENN.

Return
Address unknown

Letter opened (torn) Right end
re-sealed with Scotch Tape —

RETURN
TO
"WRITER"

diagram has been added

18/75

E. L. Brown, Jr.
Squankum Road
Route 4 Box 82
Farmingdale, New Jersey
07727

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Old Receiver Road
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland
21701

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED